

In the Claims:

~~Please cancel claim 11 without prejudice or disclaimer.~~

Please enter the following amended claims:

*Reb B27*  
*a2*

1. (Amended) A method of inhibiting apoptosis in a subject, comprising:  
administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one serine protease  
inhibitor in which the effective amount inhibits apoptosis;  
wherein the subject suffers from at least one of wasting disease,  
neurodegenerative disease, myocardial infarction, stroke, Alzheimer's disease, arthritis,  
muscular dystrophy, Downs Syndrome, sepsis, HIV infection, multiple sclerosis,  
arteriosclerosis, diabetes, arthritis, autoimmune disease, ischemia-reperfusion injury, or  
toxin-induced liver injury.

*Reb B7 A3*

4. (Amended) The method of claim 3 in which the effective amount is  
greater than 0.2 and less than 8.0 g/kg body weight.

*a4*

6. (Amended) The method of claim 5, in which the serine protease  
inhibitor is derivatized by esterification, acetylation, or amidation, and wherein the  
derivatized serine protease inhibitor retains the inhibitory activity.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 1, in which the serine protease  
inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of:

*Reb B5*  
*a5*

(benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-  
oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;  
(benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-phenylethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-  
(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;  
(benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-methoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-  
2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;  
(benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-  
(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;  
(benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(methyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-  
methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;  
(benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(difluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl) carbonyl)-2-  
(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

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L. SHAPIRO

Application No.: 09/518,081

1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide; 5-(S)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide; 5-(R)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide; 1-benzyl-4-(R)-benzyl-2,5-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide; and 1-benzyl-4-(R)-benzyl-2,5-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide; among others.

**In The Claims:**

A marked-up version of the claims showing the amendments is attached hereto as Exhibit

B. Matter that has been deleted from the claims is indicated by brackets and matter that has been added is indicated by underlining.

Please cancel Claims 21, 22, and 26-28 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of inhibiting apoptosis in a subject, comprising:  
B2 administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one serine protease inhibitor in which the effective amount inhibits apoptosis;

wherein the subject suffers from at least one of wasting disease, Alzheimer's disease, arthritis, muscular dystrophy, Downs Syndrome, sepsis, HIV infection, multiple sclerosis, arteriosclerosis, diabetes, autoimmune disease, ischemia-reperfusion injury, or toxin-induced liver injury.

3. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, in which the serine protease inhibitor is  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin, an oxidation-resistant or free radical-resistant variant thereof, or combinations thereof.

4. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 3 in which the effective amount is at least .001 and no greater than 70 g/kg body weight.

8. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, in which the serine protease inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of:

- i. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;
- ii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-phenylethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;
- iii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-methoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;
- iv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

v. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(methyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

vi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(difluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

vii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(benzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

viii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-methoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

ix. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2,6-difluorobenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

x. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trans-styryl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trans-4-trifluoromethylstyryl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trans-4-methoxystyryl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xiii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-thienylmethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xiv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(phenyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-phenylpropyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide.

xvi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide (also known as CE-2072);

xvii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(3-(methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xviii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(methyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xix. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xx. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(4-dimethylaminobenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(1-naphthylenyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-[1-(3-(5-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxiii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3,5-dimethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxiv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3,5-dimethoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3,5-ditri fluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxvi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxvii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(biphenylmethine)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxviii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(4-phenylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxix. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-phenylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxx. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-phenoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(cyclohexylmethylen)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethyldimethylmethylen)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxiii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(1-naphthylmethylen)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxiv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-pyridylmethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3,5-diphenylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxvi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(4-dimethylaminobenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxvii. 2-(5-[(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino]-6-oxo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,6-dihydro-1-pyrimidinyl]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-(S)-2-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xxxviii. 2-(5-amino-6-oxo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,6-dihydro-1-pyrimidinyl)-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xxxix. 2-[5-[(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino]-6-oxo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,6-dihydro-1-pyrimidinyl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-(S)-2-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xl. 2-[5-amino-6-oxo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,6-dihydro-1-pyrimidinyl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xli. (pyrrole-2-carbonyl)-N-(benzyl)glycyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

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xlii. (pyrrole-2-carbonyl)-N-(benzyl)glycyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)(1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xliii. (2S,5S)-5-amino-1,2,4,5,6,7-hexahydroazepino-[3,2,1]-indole-4-one-carbonyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-(R,S)-2-methylpropyl]amide;

xliv. BTD-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xlv. (R,S)-3-amino-2-oxo-5-phenyl-1,4-benzodiazepine-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xlvi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-2-L-(2,3-dihydro-1H-indole)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xlvii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-2-L-(2,3-dihydro-1H-indole)-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xlviii. acetyl-2-L-(2,3-dihydro-1H-indole)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xlix. 3-(S)-(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino- $\epsilon$ -lactam-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

l. 3-(S)-(amino)- $\epsilon$ -lactam-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide trifluoroacetic acid salt;

li. 3-(S)-[(4-morpholinocarbonyl-butanoyl)amino]- $\epsilon$ -lactam-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(R,S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lii. 6-[4-fluorophenyl]- $\epsilon$ -lactam-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

liii. 2-(2-(R,S)-phenyl-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lv. 2-(2-(R,S)-phenyl-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)(hydroxymethyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lvii. 2-(2-(R,S)-benzyl-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lvi. 2-(2-(R,S)-benzyl-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yloxide]-N-[1-(3-(5-(trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(R,S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lvii. (1-benzoyl-3,8-quinazolinedione)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lviii. (1-benzoyl-3,6-piperazinedione)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lix. (1-phenyl-3,6-piperazinedione)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lx. (1-phenyl-3,6-piperazinedione)-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)]-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxii. 3-[(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino]-quinolin-2-one-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxiii. 3-[(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino]-7-piperidinyl-quinolin-2-one-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxiv. 3-(carbomethoxy-quinolin-2-one)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxv. 3-[(4-morpholino)aceto]amino-quinolin-2-one-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxvi. 3,4-dihydro-quinolin-2-one-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxvii. 1-acetyl-3-(4-fluorobenzylidene)piperazine-2,5-dione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxviii. 1-acetyl-3-(4-dimethylaminobenzylidene)piperazine-2,5-dione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxix. 1-acetyl-3-(4-carbomethoxybenzylidene)piperazine-2,5-dione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxx. 1-acetyl-3-[(4-pyridyl)methylene]piperazine-2,5-dione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxi. 4-[1-benzyl-3-(R)-benzyl-piperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(2-[5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl]carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxii. 4-[1-benzyl-3-(S)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxiii. 4-[1-benzyl-3(R)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxiv. 4-[1-benzyl-3-(S)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxv. 4-[1-benzyl-3-(S)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxvi. 4-[1-methyl-3-(R,S)-phenylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxvii. 4-[methyl-3-(R,S)-phenylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxviii. 4-[1-(4-morpholinoethyl)-3-(R)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxix. 5-(R,S)-phenyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxx. 5-(R)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxxi. 5-(S)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxxii. 5-(S)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxxiii. 5-(R)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxxiv. 1-benzyl-4-(R)-benzyl-2,5-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxxv. 1-benzyl-4-(R)-benzyl-2,5-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

and combinations thereof.

9. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 8, in which the effective amount is at least 0.001 and no greater than 7.0 g/kg body weight.

12. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, in which the therapeutically effective amount is sufficient to provide at least 10 pM and no greater than 2 mM of the inhibitor in the biological fluid of the subject.

14. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, in which the therapeutically effective amount is sufficient to provide at least .5  $\mu$ M and no greater than 200  $\mu$ M in the biological fluid of the subject.

16. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 1, in which the therapeutically effective amount is administered at least once daily and no more than once hourly.

18. (Amended) A method of prophylactically treating an individual at risk for a pathological condition that is precipitated at least in part by excessive apoptosis, comprising:

administering to an individual a therapeutically effective amount of at least one serine protease inhibitor.

19. (Amended) A method for reducing apoptosis in an *in vitro* mammalian cell culture, an *ex vivo* mammalian tissue culture, or mammalian organ comprising:

providing to a cell culture, tissue culture, or organ an amount of a serine protease inhibitor sufficient to inhibit apoptosis in said cell culture, tissue culture, or organ wherein a measured amount of apoptosis is indicative of apoptosis activity.

23. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 25, in which the serine protease inhibitor is derivatized by esterification, acetylation, or amidation, and wherein the derivatized serine protease inhibitor retains the inhibitory activity.

24. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 25, wherein the at least one cell is a cell of a subject, and wherein the amount is sufficient to bring the concentration of serine protease inhibitor in the subject's blood to at least .5  $\mu$ M and no greater than 200  $\mu$ M.

25. (Twice Amended) A method of inhibiting apoptosis, comprising providing a serine protease inhibitor to at least one cell and measuring a decrease in apoptosis, wherein the serine protease inhibitor is an oxidation-resistant or free radical-resistant variant of  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin; or:

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- i. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;
- ii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-phenylethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;
- iii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-methoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;
- iv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;
- v. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(methyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;
- vi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(difluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;
- vii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(benzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xix. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xx. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(4-dimethylaminobenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(1-naphthyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-[1-(3-(5-(3,4-methylenedioxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxiii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3,5-dimethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxiv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3,5-dimethoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3,5-ditrifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxvi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxvii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(biphenylmethine)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxviii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(4-phenylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxix. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-phenylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

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ORIGINAL

3/3/00

IT IS CLAIMED:

*Sub a2* 1. A method of treating a subject suffering a disease characterized by excessive apoptosis comprising:

5 administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one serine protease inhibitor in which the effective amount inhibits excessive apoptosis.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising monitoring a decrease in apoptosis.

3. The method of claim 1, in which the serine protease inhibitor is  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin, an  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin-like agent, a variant of  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin, an anticithepsin G agent, an antitryptase TL-2 agent, an antifactor Xa agent, an antielastase agent, an antiproteinase-3 agent, or combinations thereof.

*Sub a3* 4. The method of claim 3 in which the effective amount is between about 0.3 and about 7.0 g/kg body weight.

5. The method of claim 1, in which the serine protease inhibitor is a substituted oxydiazole, thiadiazole, triazole peptoids, or combinations thereof.

6. The method of claim 5, in which the serine protease inhibitor is derivatized by esterification, acetylation, or amidation.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising administering at least one free radical scavenger or inhibitor.

*Sub a5* 8. The method of claim 1, in which the serine protease inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide; (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-phenylethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide; (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-methoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide; (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide; (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(methyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-Methylpropyl]-L-Prolinamide; (Benzylloxycarbonyl)-L-Valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(difluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl) carbonyl)-2-(S)-Methylpropyl]-L-Prolinamide; (Benzylloxycarbonyl)-L-Valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(benzyl)-1,2,4-

xxx. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-phenoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(cyclohexylmethylen)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethyldimethylmethylen)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxiii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(1-naphthylmethylen)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxiv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-pyridylmethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;  
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xxxv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3,5-diphenylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxvi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(4-dimethylaminobenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xxxvii. 2-[5-[(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino]-6-oxo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,6-dihydro-1-pyrimidinyl]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-(S)-2-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xxxviii. 2-(5-amino-6-oxo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,6-dihydro-1-pyrimidinyl]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xxxix. 2-[5-[(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino]-6-oxo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,6-dihydro-1-pyrimidinyl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-(S)-2-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xl. 2-[5-amino-6-oxo-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,6-dihydro-1-pyrimidinyl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xli. (pyrrole-2-carbonyl)-N-(benzyl)glycyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xlii. (pyrrole-2-carbonyl)-N-(benzyl)glycyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)(1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)-(S)-methylpropyl)amido;

xliii. (2S,5S)-5-amino-1,2,4,5,6,7-hexahydroazepino-[3,2,1]-indole-4-one-carbonyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-(R,S)-2-methylpropyl]amide;

xliv. BTD-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xlv. (R,S)-3-amino-2-oxo-5-phenyl-1,4-benzodiazepine-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

xlvi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-2-L-(2,3-dihydro-1H-indole)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xlvii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-2-L-(2,3-dihydro-1H-indole)-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xlviii. acetyl-2-L-(2,3-dihydro-1H-indole)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]amide;

xlix. 3-(S)-(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino- $\epsilon$ -lactam-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

l. 3-(S)-(amino)- $\epsilon$ -lactam-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide trifluoroacetic acid salt;

li. 3-(S)-[(4-morpholinocarbonyl-butanoyl)amino]-ε-lactam-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(R,S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lii. 6-[4-fluorophenyl]-ε-lactam-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

liii. 2-(2-(R,S)-phenyl-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

liv. 2-(2-(R,S)-phenyl-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl(hydroxymethyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lv. 2-(2-(R,S)-benzyl-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yl]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lvi. 2-(2-(R,S)-benzyl-4-oxothiazolidin-3-yloxide]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(R,S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lvii. (1-benzoyl-3,8-quinazolinedione)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lviii. (1-benzoyl-3,6-piperazinedione)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lix. (1-phenyl-3,6-piperazinedione)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lx. (1-phenyl-3,6-piperazinedione)-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)]-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxi. 3-[(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino]-quinolin-2-one-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxii. 3-[(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino]-7-piperidinyl-quinolin-2-one-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxiii. 3-(carbomethoxy-quinolin-2-one-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxiv. 3-(amino-quinolin-2-one)-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxv. 3-[(4-morpholino)aceto]amino-quinolin-2-one-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxvi. 3,4-dihydro-quinolin-2-one-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;  
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lxvii. 1-acetyl-3-(4-fluorobenzylidene)piperazine-2,5-dione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxviii. 1-acetyl-3-(4-dimethylaminobenzylidene)piperazine-2,5-dione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxix. 1-acetyl-3-(4-carbomethoxybenzylidene)piperazine-2,5-dione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxx. 1-acetyl-3-[(4-pyridyl)methylene]piperazine-2,5-dione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxi. 4-[1-benzyl-3-(R)-benzyl-piperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxii. 4-[1-benzyl-3-(S)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxiii. 4-[1-benzyl-3(R)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxiv. 4-[1-benzyl-3-(S)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxv. 4-[1-benzyl-3-(S)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxvi. 4-[1-methyl-3-(R,S)-phenylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxvii. 4-[methyl-3-(R,S)-phenylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxviii. 4-[1-(4-morpholinoethyl)-3-(R)-benzylpiperazine-2,5-dione]-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxix. 5-(R,S)-phenyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxx. 5-(R)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxxi. 5-(S)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxxii. 5-(S)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

lxxxiii. 5-(R)-benzyl-2,4-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide;

viii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-methoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

ix. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2,6-difluorobenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

x. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trans-styryl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trans-4-trifluoromethylstyryl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

β10  
xii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trans-4-methoxystyryl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xiii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-thienylmethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xiv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(phenyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xv. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-phenylpropyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide.

xvi. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide (also known as CE-2072);

xvii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(3-(methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

xviii. (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(2-(5-(methyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide;

*Sub a5*  
*Sub 5*

oxadiazolyl]carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide; 1-Benzyl-4-(R)-benzyl-2,5-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(2-(5-(3-methylbenzyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazolyl]carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide; and 1-Benzyl-4-(R)-benzyl-2,5-imidazolidinedione-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethyl benzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl]carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]acetamide, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, and combinations thereof.

9. The method of claim 8, in which the effective amount is between about 0.001 and about 7 g/kg body weight.

10. The method of claim 1, in which the subject is a human.

11. The method of claim 1, in which the disease is at least one of cancer, 10 autoimmune disease, neurodegenerative disease, myocardial infarction, stroke, sepsis, ischemia reperfusion injury, toxin induced liver injury, or AIDS.

*Sub a6* 12. The method of claim 1, in which the therapeutically effective amount is sufficient to provide about 10 pM to about 2 mM of the inhibitor in the biological fluid of the subject.

15 13. The method of claim 12, in which the biological fluid is blood.

*Sub a7* 14. The method of claim 1, in which the therapeutically effective amount is sufficient to provide about 5  $\mu$ M to about 200  $\mu$ M in the biological fluid of the subject.

15. The method of claim 1, in which the administering is parenterally, orally, 20 vaginally, rectally, nasally, buccally, intravenously, intramuscularly, subcutaneously, intrathecally, epidurally, transdermally, intracerebroventricularly, by osmotic pump, or combinations thereof.

*Sub a8* 16. The method of claim 1, in which the therapeutically effective amount is administered between about once daily to about once hourly.

25 17. The method of claim 2, in which the monitoring is performed on a biopsy from the subject.

*Sub B9* 18. A method of prophylactically treating an individual at risk for a pathological condition that is precipitated at least in part by excessive apoptosis, comprising:

30 administering to an individual a therapeutically effective amount of at least one agent exhibiting mammalian  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin or  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin-like activity.

19. A method for inhibiting apoptosis in an in vitro mammalian cell culture,

*Durr BG*  
an ex vivo mammalian tissue culture, or mammalian organ comprising:

providing to a cell culture, tissue culture, or organ an amount of a serine protease inhibitor sufficient to inhibit apoptosis in said cell culture, tissue culture, or organ wherein a measured amount of apoptosis is indicative of apoptosis activity.

5 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the mammalian organ is a donor organ.

*Subj* 21. A method of inhibiting apoptosis, comprising providing a serine protease inhibitor to a cell and measuring a decrease in apoptosis.

22. The method of claim 21, in which the serine protease inhibitor is  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin, variant of  $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin, an anticithepsin G agent, an antitryptase TL-2 agent, an antifactor Xa agent, an antielastase agent, an antiproteinase-3 agent, substituted oxydiazole, substituted thiadiazole, substituted triazole peptoids, or combinations thereof.

*Subj Ad* 23. The method of claim 22, in which the serine protease inhibitor is derivatized by esterification, acetylation, or amidation.

24. The method of claim 23, in which the amount is sufficient to bring the concentration in the blood to between about 5  $\mu\text{M}$  and about 200  $\mu\text{M}$ .

25. The method of claim 21, in which the serine protease inhibitor is (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(3-trifluoromethylbenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide; (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-phenylethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide; (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2-methoxybenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide; (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-methylpropyl]-L-prolinamide; (benzyloxycarbonyl)-L-valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(methyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-Methylpropyl]-L-Prolinamide; (Benzylloxycarbonyl)-L-Valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(difluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl) carbonyl)-2-(S)-Methylpropyl]-L-Prolinamide; (Benzylloxycarbonyl)-L-Valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(benzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-Methylpropyl]-L-Prolinamide; (Benzylloxycarbonyl)-L-Valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(2,6-difluorobenzyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-Methylpropyl]-L-Prolinamide; (Benzylloxycarbonyl)-L-Valyl-N-[1-(3-(5-(trans-styryl)-1,2,4-oxadiazolyl)carbonyl)-2-(S)-Methylpropyl]-L-